TOLL—TWO-WHEELED VEHICLES LICENSED IN KUNNAMKULAM TOWN COUNCIL

45. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):*

(*a*) Will Government be pleased to print and place on the table of the House the Government Proceedings, dated 7th April 1941, D. Dis. 15566/16, regarding tolls in Kunnamkulam;

(*b*) whether there is not a taluk-toll in Choondal near the Kunnamkulam Town Council limits?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) A copy of the Government Proceedings, dated 7th April 1941, D. Dis. 12633/16, (which is the correct number of the G. P.) is placed on the table.

(*b*) Yes.

SHANMUKHAM CANAL—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1116

46. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Will Government be pleased to state the amount of receipts from the Shanmukham Canal for 1116 and also the total amount spent for the above-mentioned canal during 1116?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

	Rs.	A.	P.
Receipt up to the end of Medam 1116 ..	821	11	0
Expenditure			
(1) Establishment charges	283	2	0
(2) Amount spent for capital works and for repairs	7,066	5	1

TOBACCO SHOP—CHERANELLUR, VELLARAPPALLI AND MALAYATTUR—AUCTION OF

47. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when the tobacco shops were auctioned on 13th Edavam 1116 what were the reasons which actuated the Excise Commissioner to club together the shops of Cheranellur, Vellarappalli and Malayattur;

(*b*) what were the amounts for which these shops were sold separately last time and what is the amount realised this time;

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(*c*) just when the clubbing of the shops was announced, whether it is not a fact that somebody from Cheranellur offered to take the shops of that village for the amount for which they were sold last time less Rs. 100; is it also not a fact that persons from Malayattur offered to buy the shops of that village;

(*d*) is it not a fact that the Commissioner refused to auction these shops at that time on the ground that those persons did not make any bid when the shops in question where taken up for auction individually a few minutes previously, although they protested that they were outside the room at that time and that consequently they did not hear the shops being called out;

(*e*) are the Government aware that the clubbing up of shops of distant villages like these, considerably restricts the circle of persons who can take part in such auction?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Excise Commissioner):*

(*a*) When the shops of Cheranellur, Vellarappalli and Malayattur were auctioned independently there were no purchasers coming forward. The present licensee of Cheranellur and Vellarappalli shops offered the current rentals for all the shops together. The clubbing of shops for sale was resorted to avoid reduction in the rentals.

(*b*)

No. and name of the tobacco B shops		*Rental per annum*	
		Rentals for the present lease	*Those for the next lease*
		Rs.	*Rs.*
29	Cheranellur	170	170
30	Do.	250	250
31	Do.	200	200
32	Do.	160	160
35	Edaikunnam Valam	150	150
47	Chowwara	600	500
48	Do.	600	600
49	Do.		600
50	Edanad	200	200
51	Vadakkumbhagam	500	600
52	Chengal	300	300
53	Thoravunkara	200	200
54	Kizhakkumbhagam	460	660

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No. and name of the tobacco B shops		Rental per annum: Rentals for the present lease	Rental per annum: Those for the next lease
		Rs.	Rs.
55	Kizhakkumbhagam	450	660
56	Do.	350	350
57	Thekkumbhagam	500	600
58	Do.	500	600
59	Malayattur	740	1,000
60	Do.	490	500
	Total	7,320	8,300

(*c*) It was sometime after the clubbing of these shops was over and auction had begun and certain bids made that these offers were made. These offers were not considered as they were made too late and the bids had already started based upon other offers to take up the shops.

(*d*) Yes. (Vide answer to sub-division (*c*) above). There was no protest as alleged in the question.

(*e*) Yes. Clubbing of shops is resorted to only when there are no bidders for all the shops in the place independently and when the bidders combine together with a view to lower the rentals. Sometimes certain minor shops are clubbed together and sold along with a major shop in order to safeguard the interest of the major shop which carries a high rental. Whenever there are bidders to take up all the shops independently shops are not as a rule clubbed together.

48. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) were any shops in Cochin-Kanayannur taluk sold on 13th Edavam 1116 for amounts smaller than those obtained last time; if so, which are those shops and what are the amounts for which they were sold last time and this time;

(*b*) is it not a fact that while auctioning the group of shops referred to in question No. 47 (*a*), the Commissioner's Assistant was, for a considerable time (almost after every bid by one party),going into the adjacent room to consult a particular person regarding the bid that was to be made on his behalf: was this

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particular solicitude shown to anybody else in the case of any other shop or shops;

(*c*) is it not a fact that this particular person at last came into the auction room, that after the bid of Rs. 8,090 was made, he made a bid of Rs. 9,000 and that he repeated this figure a second time; is it again not a fact that, at the instance of the same officer mentioned in question No. (*b*) the person who made the bid of Rs. 9,000 stated that it was a slip of the tongue and that what he meant was Rs. 8,100; and was not the figure altered accordingly?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Excise Commissioner):* (*a*) Yes. Those shops are:

Name		*Rental last time*	*This time*
		Rs.	*Rs.*
Ernakulam Tobacco A shop	No. 1	3,450	3,210
Do.	No. 2	3,450	3,210
Kovilvattam Market Tobacco B shop	No. 1	4,510	4,135
Kovilvattam Tobacco B	No. 2	4,510	4,135
Do.	3	4,510	4,135
Do.	4	4,510	4,135
Thrikkanarvattam shop	No. 5	3,000	1,500
Do.	8	2,000	1,600
Karithala	9	870	860
Perumanur	13	1,080	820
Do.	14	1,600	1,500
Do.	15	840	660
Kaloor	17	1,000	760
Chenganad	19	770	630
Thevara Chenganad	20	200	115
Komanthuruth	21	190	120
Elamkulam	22	600	400
Kadavanthara	24	310	185
Ponnurunni	36	370	280
Palarivattam	38	710	545
Karanakodam	39	265	235
Vyttila	42	210	160
Do.	44	260	200
Do.	45	470	370
Chowwara	47	600	500
Vadavukode	104	185	145
Do.	105	185	145

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Name		Rental last time	This time
		Rs.	Rs.
Mulanthuruthi	107	230	200
Do.	108	225	200
Do.	109	225	200
Karikode Talpana	111	150	140
Karikode	112	150	145
Kanayannur	126	130	120

(*b*) Out of three sets of bidders for this group of shops, one set was in the adjacent room, whenever the bids came to a stand still and the party in the adjacent room kept silent, the Excise Inspector, Southern Circle, went to that room (not after every bid twice or thrice only on this occasion), to ascertain whether they had any idea to raise the bids. The same kind of solicitude was shown as usual to all other bidders in the case of all other shops.

(*c*) There was no suggestion from anybody to make the bidder correct his mistake. It was clear from the previous bids of the same person that this particular bid was made by a slip of the tongue. The bidder himself pointed out the mistake. The Commissioner who was conducting the sale thought that it would be unjust and improper to take advantage of such an apparently clear slip of the tongue and allowed the alteration of the figure accordingly in the open auction room.

49. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Will Government be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that the inhabitants of Vellarappally are placed in a peculiar situation in regard to tobacco, in that they are precluded from bringing with them from anywhere outside Vellarappally more than five tolas of tobacco for their personal requirements, and that consequently they are compelled to buy tobacco at whatever price the shopkeeper may be pleased to sell, irrespective of the market rate outside Vellarappally?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Excise Commissioner):* Vellarappally is an enclave surrounded by Travancore. Our rules allow import without permit for *bonafide* private consumption, cigars, cigarettes, snuff and smoking tobacco up to a maximum of one lb. and chewing tobacco up to a limit of 5 tolas. This restriction need not necessarily lead to inflation in the prices.

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